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DEVOTED TO SCIENTIFIC BEE-CULTURE AND THE PRODUCTION AND SALE OF PURE HONEY.

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American-Italian Bees in Japan.

Mr. R. Mayerhoeffer, Taschivitz, Austria, sends us the following translation of a letter received by him from Japan:

Since 1877 the Italian bees are imported to this country from America, and manipulated in a hive of American style. The characteristics of these bees are: more vigorous, larger in size, and the amount of honey gathered is much greater than from our native bees. Their culture is spreading year after year to every district in Japan adapted to bee-culture. I am sorry to say that the Italian bees are often devoured by the chimney swallows while on their flight. I think this is caused by their large size.

This country has furnished Italian bees for Japan, New Zealand and Australia, and it only awaits our perfection of the "coming bee," to exchange queens, bees and compliments with our Italian friends. Last spring we were consulted by a Swedish gentleman in the selection of a sample hive, sections, foundation, etc., for introduction into Sweden, and but a little time will elapse ere our bees and apiarian implements will be familiar objects throughout all Christendom.

The United States have shipped many tons of extracted honey to China and Japan, where it has found a ready market at fair prices, and been a popular article of consumption with the

better classes. Properly developed, the Celestial Empire will furnish a market for every pound of honey that can be produced on our Pacific coast, nor will the introduction of American-Italian bees into China and Japan injure the traffic, but will, rather, have a tendency to stimulate it.

Extravagant Economy.

The above reflection was suggested to us not long since, when we saw a large lot of beautiful honey put up in all sorts of odds and ends, intended to represent sections. The apiarist evidently had these sections on hand, or bought them at half-price, and in a spirit of wasteful frugality determined to use them rather than pay a fair price for a neat, attractive section. He undoubtedly lost enough time in assorting and arranging them to have paid for a good article. His economy cost him just four cents per pound on his honey.

It is extravagant economy to delay ordering hives, sections, foundation, etc., till the last moment, or till they are needed for use, for frequently a dealer finds it impossible to fill all orders promptly when they are held back till the last moment, and then accompanied with the parenthetical request, "Send at once, I want it bad." By ordering in a dull time, better figures can generally be obtained, more satisfactory work will be performed, and you can take advantage of your odd time to prepare them for use, and to remedy defects, if any exist. Very frequently a few days delay occasioned by this questionable economy will result in a light honey harvest, or the loss of a few swarms of bees.

It is extravagant economy to delay providing pasturage for your bees till a season of dearth comes on, or until you are painfully persuaded your locality is over-stocked with bees. By taking time by the forelock, nature will assist you in extending your pasturage when most needed in the future, and will furnish the seeds for doing so free of charge.

It is frequently extravagant economy to buy the lower priced articles, simply because they are sold for less money. The cheapest in price are often most expensive in experience.

If you expect to be a solicitor of public patronage of any kind, it is extravagant economy to practice a "masterly inactivity" and wait for the public to discover your merits. If you have more bees than you wish to keep,

let the world know it through a liberal advertisement. If you have a really meritorious hive you wish to supply to bee-keepers, "push it;" advertise the hive and its merits. If you are a manufacturer or dealer in supplies, let those who read papers devoted to your specialty know it. If you expect to rear queens and bees for the market, provide yourself with good stock and place yourself prominently before the public as ready to accept its favors, and return an honest equivalent therefor. Do not boast of more than you expect to do, but certainly tell all you can perform. It is extravagant economy to wait for the busy season before you begin advertising, for your business will never be brisk till you are known. Again, during a dull season readers have more time to ponder over your advertisement, to correspond with you, and to form an estimate of your business integrity.

During the past autumn we have circulated fifty thousand copies of a Special Edition of the BEE JOURNAL, at fairs, conventions, etc., among those who have heretofore read no paper devoted to bees and honey production in the new and improved methods. We are now daily receiving clubs of subscriptions from these persons, and have been for months past. These will all have to be supplied with bees, queens, hives, sectional boxes, comb foundation and all the necessary appliances for the apiary, during the next few months, and most of them know nothing of dealers in these articles, except what they will glean from our columns in future. Here is an inviting field for supply dealers to occupy, if they advertise early.

On the ground that she married a foreigner, in violation of the will of the Duchess of St. Albans, Baroness Burdett-Coutts-Bartlett, President of the British Bee-Keepers' Society, has been compelled to surrender her half-interest in the banking-house. This takes from her income about \$700,000.

The editor of the BEE JOURNAL expects to attend the Michigan State Convention at Battle Creek, Mich., on Dec. 8, 1881. From present indications it will be an interesting meeting.

We have received sufficient encouragement to now definitely promise to get up the apiary record book that has been so generally called for. We will give particulars and prices next week.

Selling Honey for Cash.

As another evidence of honey being a staple article, Mr. House, on page 380 of this BEE JOURNAL says:

"We have had the pleasure of seeing men traveling the country buying for cash. This, no doubt, is owing to the earnest work and diligent effort on the part of the heavier producers in this State to concentrate our honey, and we are now reaping our reward."

We do not quite agree with Mr. House in some details of his article, but on the whole it is a valuable and timely production.

Yes; "earnest work" will be rewarded, in every direction while we are endeavoring to make honey a staple article. It is only a question of time when traveling men will be scouring the country, buying all the honey that can be produced, for cash. Our faith in the future of honey as a staple article, like butter, cheese and eggs, is strong and invincible. To this we have devoted our time, energies and means, and we are fully aware that all our "earnest work," as well as that of our co-laborers, will be rewarded. Let us all be wide awake—for "the day of prosperity" for our chosen avocation is just dawning.

Melting Combs into Wax.—Mr. Jos. Saylor, Fairmont, Neb., writes: "Will you please to give the best method of making old comb into wax, where parties have no extractor?"

Warm your combs slightly, so as to press into solid, compact balls, fill a coarse sack with these balls, put all in a boiler, and nearly fill with water, first having put strips of wood in the bottom of the boiler to prevent burning; place heavy weights on the bag to keep it down and press out the wax fast as melted, which will rise to the top, and must be skimmed off and put into a vessel for caking. If there is much sediment in the wax, it can be melted again without water, when the dirt will settle at the bottom. Many use about a tablespoonful of sal soda to five gallons of water in melting the comb.

We are sometimes asked who our authorized agents are? Every subscriber is such an agent; we have no others, and greatly desire that each one would at least send in one new subscriber with his own renewal for 1882. The next few weeks are the time to do this. We hope every subscriber will do his or her best to double our list for 1882.

AMONG OUR EXCHANGES.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Effect of Bee and Honey Shows.
—A correspondent in the *London Horticultural Journal*, says:

I can state without fear of contradiction that never in the memory of man has there been such a desire to keep bees as at the present time. In this district people have been so encouraged in bee-keeping as taught through the tents, that the agents in the north of Ireland have had to repeat their orders again and again for bar-frame appliances, as Messrs. G. Neighbour & Sons could testify. Further, new manufacturers have started in all parts of the country; and besides all this, I have almost daily applications for instructions concerning the bar-frame hive. As regards sectional supers, nothing could be more taking than they are, and those who exhibit them at shows are pressed all day to dispose of them, while on the other hand, few "spear the price" of a glass super 21 lbs. at 2s. per lb., or a big, straw skep filled with honey, brood, bee-bread, etc.

Honey at the Arkansas State Fair.—The *Little Rock Democrat* gives the following list of premiums awarded for honey at the State Fair:

Best package comb honey in the best marketable shape, 5 lbs. or more, W. W. Hipolite, Duval's Bluff, \$5.
Best package extracted honey in the best marketable shape, 5 lbs. or more, Stacy Pettit, Fort Smith, \$5.
Best crate of honey in comb, 25 lbs., W. W. Hipolite, Duval's Bluff, \$20.
Best colony of bees, movable comb hives, F. J. Young, Little Rock, \$10.
Best 5 lbs. beeswax, Mrs. E. H. Chamberlain, Little Rock, \$2.
Best machine for extracting honey, Stacey Pettit, Fort Smith, \$2.
Best bee hive, W. W. Hipolite, Duval's Bluff, diploma.

Bee-Culture as a Business.—Mr. G. W. Demaree, gives his views on this subject in the *Farmers' Home Journal*, as follows:

Bee-culture is yet in its infancy. It is only about 20 years ago the Rev. L. L. Langstroth, by his invention of the movable frame hive, laid the foundation of scientific bee-culture, and soon after Mr. Wagner commenced the publication of the *AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL*, the first paper devoted exclusively to bee-culture ever published in this country. With this state of things, one would suppose that the business would have moved right along, but not so. People had been educated to look on bee-culture as a "little business," and called it "fussing with bees," till ignorance and superstition had taken too deep a hold to be rooted out so easily. The paper was so poorly supported at the start, that the enterprise was abandoned for a time, but was revived about the year 1865 or 1866, and after the death of Mr. Wagner (than whom no man was more highly esteemed among the bee fraternity), the paper fell into the hands of Thomas G. Newman, whose learning and enterprise soon made it a great success. This paper is now issued weekly, and is as ably and accurately edited as a majority of the best papers in the country. There are now 8 or 10 papers published in the interest of bee-culture, while nearly all the agricultural papers begin to realize that the people want information on this subject. And doubtless this class of papers hereafter will give a due part of their space to the subject of bee-culture, and thereby many persons will be reached who never see a bee paper.

In an age like the present, when universal peace prevails, and men are multiplying rapidly on the earth, new occupations, new methods of earning an honest living must necessarily be encouraged. Millions of pounds of precious nectar secreted by the honey producing flora, goes to waste every year for the want of the busy workers to collect it and prepare it for the use of man, and for the want of skillful apiarists to control and direct the busy workers. Let no man say he can find nothing to do to get a living.

How Cyprian Bees Behave in England.—The editor of the *British Bee Journal* quoted some American complaints about the ferocity of Cyprians, and adds:

The last extract coincides exactly with our experience, and we can go even further. On several occasions bees that have crept between the folds of our clothing (which they are very prone to do), have, when liberated at night, attacked us by gas-light, when other bees would have been only too glad to escape if it were possible to do so.

Care of Surplus Honey.—Prof. A. J. Cook in the *New York Tribune*, writes as follows on this important subject:

Last evening, Mr. Samuel Hilbert came to me and dolefully asked: "What shall I do with my honey? It has all soured." "You, an old bee-keeper, mean to say that you have put your honey in a cellar or other damp, cool place? Didn't you know better?" "Yes, but when I took off my beautiful white June honey, I was driven with work, and so hurried it into the nearest place, which happened to be the cellar." This incident furnishes a text for an opportune article on the care and management of surplus honey. The wise bee-keeper will remove his comb honey just as fast as the bees cap it over. Let it form the highway of travel for the bees but for a few days, and its beauty is gone. Take it off as soon as it is capped and it will rival the snow in whiteness, and must tempt irresistibly the buyer. Secondly, put the honey in a dry, warm room. If the temperature is even 100° F. it will be all the better. In such a room the honey will not gather moisture, or "sweat," as it is called, and there will be no trouble from souring. In winter, the warmth keeps the comb from becoming brittle, and may be more safely handled.

Extracted honey should not only be kept in a dry, warm room, but in open vessels covered with cotton cloth, so the moisture, in case it was extracted before it was thoroughly cured, would escape. If this precaution is surely heeded, there is little (my experience says no) danger in extracting before the honey is capped over, beginning just as the capping is commenced. This saves no little time and labor. If extracted honey is kept in a temperature of from 80° to 100° F. it will not granulate. Granulation, however, does not injure the honey; in fact, it is one of the best tests of its purity. To relievify candied honey, we have only to heat it. If we are careful not to raise the temperature above 180° F., it will lose none of its excellence. To do this easily, place the crock or can containing the honey in a vessel of water, placing something on the bottom of the vessel so that the crock may not touch the bottom and become too much heated. Now if the water in the vessel is not permitted to boil, there is little danger of the honey being injured.

Care should be taken that the bee-moth does not injure the comb honey after it is removed from the hive. If eggs are on the comb, they will hatch and possibly ruin the honey. Their work is detected in the little particles of wax seen on the face of the comb. The safe way is to place all the comb, one week after its removal from the hive, when all the eggs will be

hatched, in a close box or in bottomless hives, placed one above the other, then to a smoker in full blast add a tablespoonful of sulphur, and place the fuming smoker in the top of the box or in the upper hive; as the sulphurous fumes are heavier than the air, they will roll to the bottom and suffocate the worms. This is cheaply done and may save much loss and disappointment.

Let the honey be thoroughly graded as it is put on the market; let it be in clean crates, so made that every passer-by shall be enticed, as he sees through a glass not darkly, the tempting honey; let there be no possible chance for the honey to leak, and disgust the dealer, and always see that every grocery-man in the vicinity has a supply of this most beautiful and wholesome article of food constantly on hand. The best way to manage sour honey is to heat it till it boils, which kills the plant-germs which cause the fermentation; then feed it back to the bees. In the process of restoring the honey seems to have regained its previous excellence.

Mitchell's Suit Dismissed.

The *Indiana Farmer* gives the following information concerning the suit which N. C. Mitchell instituted against it, placing the damages at \$5,000, and which is now dismissed:

In March, 1880, a correspondent wrote us in reference to a certain hive on which a patent was claimed by the above party, or his agents, and the threatened prosecution for the use of division boards. We answered that the hive being offered was not the original one on which a patent had been granted, and that any one found advocating the same would bear watching to say the least. A division board was public property and could be used by any one; that the party alluded to had been exposed frequently through the various bee journals, hence the suit. We asked for evidence of any crooked dealings on the part of these parties, and the amount of evidence which has been sent us freely confirms our statement. We wish to return thanks to our many friends all over the land for their kindness in furnishing the preponderance of evidence. We do not wish to make war on any one, but we believe it our duty to protect our readers as far as possible from all kinds of swindling schemes, and we propose to do it so far as is in our power, let the cost be what it may.

The patent bee-hive business has been a curse to the bee-keeping interest all over the land, and since the movable frame is now public property we strive to convince all beginners that they do not need any kind of a patent hive. Most of them are very complicated, and have many useless appendages, defeating the very object for which they were intended. They look very attractive and work nicely at a fair, but with a colony of bees in them, all their movable and adjustable parts become glued firmly together with propolis, and to loosen them jars them and makes the bees hard to control. Beginners, especially, should adopt some simple form of a movable frame hive, and use them until they become familiar with the nature of the bees, and they will soon learn that the less complicated the hive the more satisfactory the results will be.

Premiums.—Those who get up clubs for the *Weekly BEE JOURNAL* for 1882, will be entitled to the following premiums. Their own subscription may count in the club:

For a Club of 3,—a copy of "Bees and Honey."
" " 3,—an Emerson Binder for 1882.
" " 4,—Cook's (Bee) Manual, paper.
" " 5,—" " cloth.
" " 6,—Weekly Bee Journal for 1 year.

Or they may deduct 10 per cent in cash for their labor in getting up the club.

A Religious Newspaper.

We desire to call the attention of our readers to one of the greatest newspapers of the age—one that secures the best writers in this country and Europe, regardless of expense; has the best and fullest book reviews of any paper in the country; has able articles upon financial subjects; has departments edited by specialists and devoted to fine arts, music, science, religious intelligence, missions, school and college, news of the week, hymn notes, the Sunday-school, legal and sanitary questions, Biblical research (something that cannot be found in any other newspaper in the United States), farm and garden, insurance, weekly market reports, etc., in fact, a newspaper fully suited to the requirements of every family, containing a fund of information which cannot be had in any other shape, and having a wide circulation all over the country and in Europe. We refer to *The Independent*, of New York. "The largest, the ablest, the best." See advertisement in another column, and send a postal card for a free specimen copy.

New subscribers for the *Weekly BEE JOURNAL*, for 1882, will have all the remaining numbers for 1881 free from the time the money is received at this office. Therefore, the sooner they subscribe for it, the more they will obtain for the \$2.

Honey and Beeswax Market.

BUYERS' QUOTATIONS.

OFFICE OF AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL,
Monday, 10 a. m., Nov. 28, 1881.

The following are the latest quotations for honey and beeswax received up to this hour:

CHICAGO.

HONEY.—The market is lively and prices steady. We quote light comb honey, in single comb boxes, 18¢@22¢; in larger boxes 2¢ less. Extracted 18¢@20¢.

BEESWAX.—Prime quality, 18¢@22¢.
AL. H. NEWMAN, 972 W. Madison St.

NEW YORK.

HONEY.—The supply is full, and trade is lively. We quote as follows: White comb, in small boxes, 18¢@22¢; dark, in small boxes, 15¢@17¢. Extracted, white, 16¢@18¢; dark, 7¢@10¢.

BEESWAX.—Prime quality, 21¢@23¢.
THORN & CO., 11 and 13 Devos avenue.

CINCINNATI.

HONEY.—Is in good demand here now. I quote: Good comb honey, in sections, is worth 18¢@20¢, on arrival. Extracted, 7¢@9¢, on arrival.

BEESWAX.—18¢@22¢, on arrival. I have paid 25¢ per lb. for choice lots. C. F. MUTH.

BOSTON.

HONEY.—1-pound combs are a desirable package in our market, and a large quantity could be sold at 24¢@25¢, according to quality.

BEESWAX.—P. me quality, 25¢.
CRUCKER & BLAKE, 97 Chatham Street.

BALTIMORE.

HONEY.—But little on the market, and prices are not quoted.

BEESWAX.—Southern, pure, 21¢@23¢; Western, pure, 21¢@22¢; grease wax, 11¢.—*Baltimore Market Journal*.

INDIANAPOLIS.

HONEY.—New, in 1 or 2 lb. sections, 23¢@25¢.—*Indianapolis Stock Review*.

PHILADELPHIA.

HONEY.—The supply and demand are alike nominal.

BEESWAX.—Best light 23¢@25¢.—*Philadelphia Merchants' Guide*.

ST. LOUIS.

HONEY.—Steady, with sale for all offered at quotations: comb at 18¢@22¢; strained and extracted, 16¢@18¢; top rates for choice put up in small packages suitable for retailing.

BEESWAX.—Selling lightly at 18¢@20¢.
H. C. GREER & CO., 117 N. Main Street.

SAN FRANCISCO.

HONEY.—Supply of comb is light, but equal to requirements at present asking rates. The market is not glutted with extracted, but holders and buyers extremely scarce who are willing to pay the prices asked.

We quote white comb, 16¢@20¢; dark to good, 10¢@14¢. Extracted, choice to extra white, 8¢@10¢; dark and candied, 7¢@8¢. BEESWAX—23¢@25¢.

STEARNS & SMITH, 423 Front Street.

CLEVELAND.

HONEY.—We report the market quite active; all our sales this week of comb honey in 1 pound sections have been made at 22¢, and two pound sections at 21¢. Extracted has taken a start, and we report trade quite active in small packages, 3-pound tin cans, especially, at 12¢ per lb. Extracted in bbls. continues dull.

BEESWAX—20¢@22¢.
A. C. KENDEL, 115 Ontario Street.

CORRESPONDENCE

For the American Bee Journal.

Imported Krainer Bees.

J. M. SHUCK.

I have just received from Herrn, Michael Ambrozio, Legenfeld, Krain, Austria, a full colony of Krainer bees. These bees are to me great beauties, being nearly black with white stripes, the white probably due to hairs, as they all seem to be young bees. They arrived yesterday after a voyage of 26 days, and although the combs were smashed, the bees were lively and only a few dead. I am not certain that the queen is alive, but she probably is, as she customarily survives the colony through almost any number of mishaps.

The hive to me is a curiosity, being made of tough, hard, rough boards, about 24 inches long inside, 14 inches wide, and 5 inches deep; top and bottom nailed with odd-looking hand-made nails, wooden pegs and wire nails; no frames inside; combs had been built diagonally, and were filled with dark-colored, thick, rich honey, about 20 pounds. It was quite a task to open this hive, but I did it, and found the Krainers lively, good natured, and so fond of honey that they all soon had their fill.

Their flight seems to be very strong, and I am inclined to think them large as compared with the Italians. It seemed odd enough to see these mountain bees flying very freely to-day, with the mercury at 45°, when not a wing was to be seen about my other hives. I have no Krainer bees for sale, and if I succeed in keeping them till spring, will rear no drones from this queen next year.

Des Moines, Iowa, Nov. 22, 1881.

For the American Bee Journal.

Bee-Bread Injurious in Wintering.

JAMES HEDDON.

As I have the near future laid out for much hard work of this kind, I will hasten to reply to the article of the Rev. Mr. Clarke, on page 364 of the BEE JOURNAL for Nov. 16. I am glad he has attacked my theory, and if he proves to me that bee-bread is not the main cause of our greatest drawback, I shall have occasion to thank him again and again.

It is true I stand 10 to 1 in favor of the pollen theory; but as long as the 1 remains the "guess" also remains. It may be possible that I "waxed too confident," enthusiastic and warm upon the subject, but, after all, such a weakness is, to say the worst, a moral one, and to be too full of earnestness and enthusiasm to leave any room for hypocrisy and deception is not so very bad, is it? With a possession of the first named propensities, and the absence of the last, we will get at the truth by-and-by.

The "unaccountable phenomenon" of the total destruction of a whole apiary over there, and the success of this one over here, proves conclusively that the causes of the effects above named are entirely different, and it is an error to look for them in the realm of cold, or confinement, or any other condition that is common with both places. I believe that the pollen theory solves the problem because, first, a few miles intervening changes the amount, quality and position of bee-bread in the hives.

Second. Close observation of the pollen condition of the remaining hives and dead bees, argues that pollen-eating is the cause of dysentery. My knowledge of chemistry and the chemical properties of pollen are too limited to allow me to prove that this substance cannot be eaten in large quantities during confinement with-

out sickening the bees, but other evidences cause me to "guess" that such is the fact. I see no knowledge betrayed in Mr. Clarke's able essay that convinces me that he has any evidence to the contrary.

I have long supposed that bees did discharge small dry pellets when wintering successfully, but I simply shut that phenomenon out of the consideration, because I can see no bearing that it has upon the subject. In nearly all of our most successful cases of wintering, our bees void a liquid feces, and we hardly stop to consider this "dry" technicality; had I said "no liquid excrement," the argument would have remained the same, with the chance to quibble a little left out.

If "two-thirds of the food eaten by man passes from the system through sensible or insensible perspiration," we have every reason to believe that it does from the bee in a much greater proportion. At all events, we have seen the need of upward ventilation and cushions to take care of the excess of the first named matter.

There is no proof, either way, in regard to what Mr. Root's bees did or did not eat, so why mention the matter at all?

True, an ox-chain is no stronger than its weakest link, but this rule has no bearing upon a collection of proofs, for teachers of logic have said: "Never back up a strong argument with a weak one; the diplomatic and cunning will attack this weak point, utterly ignoring the strong ones that may amply prove your position, and thus defeat you in the minds of your hearers." I quote the above, not as having any bearing direct upon the wintering of bees, but to show that so able a logician as Mr. Clarke can possess the weakness of error, or the unfairness to wish to put my arguments in a false light.

But I will try to show that the weak point is not there. I said that the dead colonies either left plenty of bee-bread showing signs of late work with it, or brood in all stages, and generally both, but nearly always brood. Mr. Clarke quotes this "nearly always," as though the exceptional cases had a bearing against my argument. My theory is that the consumption of pollen causes the dysentery, and my observation was that all dead colonies showed signs of using it one way or the other, either in connection with brooding or without, but "nearly always" in connection with brooding. Mr. Clarke will stick fast if he tries to get through any hole in that part of my argument.

He says that "inasmuch as some colonies died that had no young brood, the argument becomes inconclusive." He misunderstands; the argument is not based on young brood at all, but the winter consumption of bread by the old bees (whether that consumption is induced by handling the bread in feeding larvae or otherwise), and I made the statement that in my careful observations I had noticed that "nearly all those that died had brood in all stages," to give the idea that the greatest cause of pollen-eating by the older bees came from brood-rearing. Let us examine almost the first position assented to by Mr. Clarke. I quote:

"I can understand that it may and probably does interfere with successful wintering to have brood-rearing carried on too late. It necessitates a good deal of nurse-work, and more activity generally than accords with that state of quiescence which we know to be so desirable."

"We know;" why, Mr. Clarke, I only said I "guessed." I stood 10 to 1. I dare not say "I know" too much about that "quiescent" state, for see the opinion of so careful an observer as Mr. Chas. Dadant, in BEE JOURNAL of Nov. 9, page 354. I return your advice, "go slow." Recant; be as modest as I was in the article you attacked, and say "we guess." Remember, whatever you may say upon this wintering problem, men of large experience are ready to take the argument all out of the assertion.

But what are we to understand by the above statement? That in Mr. Clarke's locality bees carry on brood-rearing in the fall, after the commencement of the quiescent period? Was that ever the rule anywhere? He seems to mistake the condition of things. This brood that we find is spring brood, and not fall.

I did not say, nor assume, that bee-bread was poisonous, and because I believed that such portions as the bees often indulged in were the cause of dysentery, why should Mr. Clarke drag in this venomous word "poison," any more than I should, because he admits that eating "too freely" of it might perhaps cause trouble? If it should cause trouble should I use the word "poison?" If that trouble should be claimed by me to reach as far as dysentery, even unto death, should Mr. Clarke set up a straw man of "poison" to combat? Is it not as easy to answer what I said, as what I did not say? Men do not, as a rule, eat poison, but they still continue to partake of food that causes intestinal diseases, unto death.

I thought I had made it clear that I believed that the eating of bee-bread by the older bees, during continued confinement, was the cause of dysentery, compared with which, as a cause of our loss of stock, all other causes combined fade into insignificance.

I think I need waste no time in replying to Mr. Clarke's claim that he is of the opinion that pollen is necessary (or may be) for the most successful wintering of bees. I see that he is not capable of convincing me, through my reason, that nitrogen, carbon, hydrogen and oxygen are so arranged in the bread that it is (under the conditions I have named) necessary or even wholesome to the bees. Hives compared to houses, and bees to cows and horses, are in my mind rather poor comparisons. Horses, like other large animals, are governed by the same laws winter and summer. Not so with bees at all. He asks, "If pollen prevents dysentery in summer, does it cause it in winter?" From the first part of the proposition I dissent, to the latter I answer, yes. Never mind Mr. Von Morlott, whoever he may be, but demolish us one at a time, please.

I think Mr. Clarke underrates himself when he says that bees in "many things are far wiser" than he. I may be in error in this regard, however, and will "go slow," making no rash statement to get picked up on; but I am sure that the successful results arising from bee instinct are not born of knowledge at all. If from knowledge, the bees really may be, and according to him are his superiors sometimes at least, for he says that though he knows that porridge is good and necessary for him, he is strongly tempted to give it the go-by, though he is sure the bees will only take that which is best for them.

I explained fully that I thought they ate bread only when the facilities for getting at, or the attraction of the quality of the honey was against them. Finally, Mr. Clarke comes to a serious close by telling us what we do know. I will not occupy space by quoting them, for we all know that we cannot control temperature unless in special repositories, and we have further demonstrated that, one year with another, said repositories have little or nothing to boast over the changeable out-door position.

We also know that "quietude" is an effect, and not a cause. We do not know that those who use, or pretend to use division boards succeed any better than those who do not; but we do know that in spite of any and all sorts of "fall preparations," dysentery claims whole apiaries for its own. "Spreading combs" has also signally failed, to our certain knowledge.

I never had, or pretended to have, any "bacteria," but only threw out a bacteria hypothesis. All those who believe in the detrimental effects of cider honey and all fermented honeys among which is Mr. Chas. Dadant, are bacteria-ites, are they not? What is fermentation but bacteria? If I un-

derstand the primary principle of chemistry correctly, wipe out of existence "bacteria," and fermentation and decomposition are things of the past only. Did any one think that I made bacteria? All I did was to suppose a new species of this well-known race of microcoxi, and say, "let us reason together," hoping to possibly point in a direction where some man of more ability and time might find the evil genius. No one ever answered any argument upon that hypothesis, but a few spent all their force trying to identify the supposition with me as an assertion.

Now, many of those who believe the "pollen theory" absurd and false, are working hard to settle it firmer with me than it belongs, while those who corroborate the theory never mention my name. Such charities are comforting.

If the future years of experience should positively demonstrate that bee-bread, nitrogen, carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and all combined, was the real cause of dysentery, will you, Mr. Clarke, couple it with my name with the same earnestness you do now? I feel that you will, and I will return the favor by trying to keep in its proper place any discovery you may be directly or indirectly the parent of, if any such circumstance ever happens. Dowagiac, Mich., Nov. 19, 1881.

For the American Bee Journal.

Size of Frames and Hives.

J. S. DUNCAN.

I commenced the season with five small colonies, covering three 11x11 1/2 frames. Not satisfied with the small frames, I adopted one 10x15, calculated to hold six 5x5 sections; the hive is for exclusive side-storing, and has a capacity for 14 frames (16x21x10 1/2) when worked for extracted honey, or 3 frames of sections on each side of brood nest. I allowed natural swarming; one absconded; after this I caged the queen and hung her where the bees were settling, but very soon they were all in the air again, leaving about a quart of bees with the queen. From the action of the bees after the excitement of swarming and loss of the queen, it is evident that they lose all recollection of their old home, as they are liable to go into any hive, or several hives, making great confusion among the surrounding colonies.

In queen-rearing I had a case similar to that described by your Kansas correspondent, on page 118. I formed 3 colonies with ripe queen cells; examined them next day and found the cells all open, while one of the queens had a comb partly filled with eggs. On examining the comb I found it had been cut open, the intruder being a queen I had doubts about, as she had been in another hive 16 days and had not commenced laying. I examined the hive this queen was in after leaving the others, and picking her off the comb threw her into the air to test her wings; she circled around the yard several times, and on returning went into the wrong hive, was accepted, and has proved to be a very good queen.

My honey carriage is a small hive mounted on a boy's express wagon I bought for a dollar, and has all the conveniences required in an apiary—boxes for scrap wax, fuel, queen cages, nails, dissecting knife, veil, gloves, or anything that may be required; the cover of the box being a handy recording desk, racks for a smoker and hammer, and a comb-holder that does not revolve. It is not patented and never will be. It is more convenient than a wheelbarrow; one great advantage is in having one hand at liberty to guard against any of those ferocious bees that may happen around.

My bees are all in fine condition, and packed for winter on from 3 to 6 frames (according to size of the colony), with a division-board on each side and a thick cushion on top; did not remove the oil-cloth, but spread the frames a little.

I think it would be a good plan for correspondents to give size of frames and capacity of hive when writing about bees. It would give the editor and his readers a better idea of the writer as a bee-keeper, a great help to beginners, and might be the means of adopting a uniform hive in America.

My profit from capital invested in bees is 40 per cent., all my investments being permanent, such as extractor, smoker, etc. My increase is 250 per cent., which pays me handsomely for the pleasure I have had with my bees. Browning, Mo., Oct. 27, 1881.

For the American Bee Journal.

The Disposal of Honey.

GEO. W. HOUSE.

Since the publication of my article and the comments thereon in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for Sept. 14, I have again visited our larger eastern markets, and I am still more confident that the position I have taken on the subject is correct. Time, however, will tell.

I notice the editor on the first page of that issue takes exceptions to the desirability of centralizing the honey traffic, and says: "The proposed centralization or co-operation is impracticable, for the reason that the necessities of bee-keepers vary as much as do their ideas regarding hives, wintering, etc. As a rule, the heavier producers have their outlets to market already established, or have had sufficient experience to be able to sell in job lots to the best advantage. These men of course would see no advantage to be derived from co-operation, and would not jeopardize their established trade by entering into the scheme."

The only "necessities" that bee-keepers have in marketing their products, is to realize satisfactorily on their consignments as quick as possible. To best attain this point would be to sell for cash; and that is what I have been laboring so hard to perfect; see page 291, AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, where I said, "when we can concentrate our honey, we shall be able to sell for cash, and we shall see buyers traveling the country to purchase it," etc. Since that writing we have had the pleasure of seeing men traveling the country buying for cash. This, no doubt, is owing to the earnest work and diligent effort on the part of the heavier producers in this State to concentrate our honey, and we are now reaping our reward.

One firm, in particular, with a capital of fifty millions of dollars, have decided to handle honey on a cash basis altogether, and undoubtedly they will endeavor to control that market to a certain extent. In doing so, they will be obliged to buy up the small consignments of honey finding their way into the hands of commission men who do not scruple at cutting the prices. This is right, because they could not pay good prices, knowing that those small consignments would surely be closed out much below the market, thus having a tendency of lessening the prices, and working ruin to the firm making it their special business.

There are a very few commission houses in New York that make a specialty of our products. These men will co-operate in sustaining the prices. But of the many commission men, 99 out of every 100 have not the facilities for handling honey. They must necessarily have a special room or department for it, which fact is proved by the few making the business a success, besides many other little matters pertaining to the business.

I do not understand why the editor should call this feature a "scheme." Centralization is important to the heavier producers, and equally important to the lesser producer. They both are working for the same end, viz: to dispose of their products for spot cash upon delivery. To be able

to do this, we must encourage the buyer or middleman.

While in Boston, a firm told me they could sell more honey, and it would command higher prices if the honey was confined to 3 or 4 wholesale houses. This firm are trying to control that market as regards prices, and they are right in their opinion, because there would not be that running from one commission house to another by the retailer, to pick up bargains that may be offered, and afterwards reporting the same to other houses in order to secure the same advantages.

If one man should consign 1000 lbs. of honey to each of 10 commission merchants, in nearly every case you would find that honey setting in plain sight where every passer-by would notice it. The retailer or grocer in passing along, sees honey in the hands of their commission men; the first idea that strikes him is, "Why, there must be a vast amount of honey in the market. What a splendid opportunity I shall have to buy cheap. But I must wait a while, for fear that the market will be glutted, and the bottom knocked out of the prices."

If the 1000 pounds were put into the hands of one man, the producer would realize on his consignment much sooner, and at far better prices, because the retailer or buyer would feel safe in putting in his stock, knowing that the prices would not be cut, nor the market glutted.

While in New York, I found honey in the hands of tea commission firms; flour commission houses; hop commission merchants, and so on through the list. I took the position of buyer, and upon making inquiries under the pretense of desiring to purchase, I was enabled to get their manner of doing business for us honey producers. If this was not a fair test, and the best way to obtain the real facts, will some one please say what is? Men may write, and men may theorize; but to obtain knowledge, we must have practical experience.

If you wanted to buy but a few crates or cases of honey, it could not be purchased much under the market price. But I found that they were desirous of closing out the whole consignment, and to get it off their hands, would sell for 25 per cent. under the market. And again, not making a specialty of the business, they had no special place or department for the consignment, but it would be piled up among various other goods, and some out on the street, broken, leaky and filthy.

Reader, do you think this manner of marketing your products is satisfactory and business-like? Do you think you would realize as much, or get returns any quicker? Or would it not be better for us all to have our honey neatly piled up in a room where no other goods are kept, and arranged so as to compare favorably with the other consignments beside it, and in the hands of a thoroughly reliable and competent man, who has an established honey trade?

Reader, this matter rests with us; the sooner we perfect a system of marketing (concentrating our honey), the quicker will we see "wholesale honey merchants" springing up; when we shall be able to dispose of our products for cash, and at good prices; fluctuating in price no more than any of the agricultural products.

On page 315, AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, Mr. Heddon says: "Buyers are 'bears,' for it is to their interests to depress the wholesale price of honey. Commission men are the 'bulls,' for they are working for our interests, and hold up the prices to the best of their ability."

In this I cannot agree with Mr. Heddon. It seems to me the above quotation is right to the reverse of what it actually is. I will give a case of actual occurrence that I happened to witness:

A bee-keeper arrived in New York with 14,000 pounds of comb honey. He was offered 17 cents in cash for his entire crop. He wanted 18 cents, and

would not sell for less. Therefore he placed the honey in the hands of a commission merchant, and before he was out of town, the honey was sold for 16 cents to the same firm that offered him 17 cents. That man, undoubtedly, will never sell on commission again, as that transaction cost him nearly \$400.00. Yet such transactions are of frequent occurrence.

As a rule, the commission men are the "bears," because all the interest they have in the matter is to get their per cent. of commission, while the wholesale dealer or middlemen are the "bulls," because it is to their interest to sell their own goods at the best possible prices.

From what I have seen and know by actual transactions, I cannot see how honey will bring more money to us put into the hands of the retailer through the commission house, than placed in the retailer's hands through the wholesale honey house.

I think the editor has misunderstood my position on this question. There is no "scheme" about it, but simply the duty of each and all of us for the protection of our interests. I have no doubt said enough in this to clearly define my position in this cause, to the reader and all interested. When we each work for our own interests, we work for the interests of each other. Therefore I shall stand firmly on this rock, knowing full well that time will sustain me in this work for the interests and benefit of the fraternity.

I heartily endorse the action of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL in the issue of Nov. 16, in the denouncement of "glucose" and its "advocates." It is the duty of all our periodicals to pour red-hot shot and shell into the camps of those advocating "glucose" in any manner.

I am also pleased to see the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL again falling into line by encouraging debate, etc. This is what placed the BEE JOURNAL at the head 12 years ago. And it is that spirit that brought out many facts and settled doubts in years gone by.

To get at facts, we must admit free discussion. Facts are more important than favors. To reach the real value, we must compare—add and subtract, till the actual result appears.

Whoever brings before the public a new article, or advances a new theory, must expect, and ought to solicit criticism, until all the points are brought out independent of theory. To oppose this shows a want of confidence in the merits of the article or question advanced.

Fayetteville, N. Y.

From the Farmers' Home Journal.

The Yellow Italian Bee.

A. P. FARNSLEY.

When I was a boy, I was very fond of watching the bees. I would stand and watch them for hours, and never tire of seeing them going out and coming in laden with the pollen of the flowers. Now, my recollection is that these bees I took so much interest in when I was a small boy, were yellow, and had the yellow bands around the abdomen, like the Italians.

I remember when looking at them, the negro men at dinner time would come to where I was, and talk to me about them, and about my fondness for them; and I distinctly remember one of the men used to tell me about the wild black bees that made their homes in the woods; and I remember when the bees in some of the hives changed to black bees, the man referred to accounted for it by saying the wild bees drove out the tame ones, and took possession of their homes. Now, so vivid is my recollection of the yellow bees with their golden bands, that the first time I saw the Italians bees they reminded me of old friends of long ago, and by association I was carried back to the scenes of my youth, when I was as happy and free from care as the beautiful forms I was so fond of watching going in and out of the hives.

Dr. Allen informed me that parties in Arkansas claim that they had the yellow bee with the bands long before the war. Aristotle describes very fully two kinds of bees—the yellow and black bee. The yellow bee was lost sight of for several centuries. They were discovered by one of Napoleon's officers when he crossed the Alps. They were introduced at that time into France. Now, am I wrong in my recollection of the bees I watched in my youth, or is it possible that the Italian bee was introduced into Louisiana by the French when that country belonged to France, and that they migrated north till they reached Kentucky, or that they were brought from Louisiana here at an early day by persons here who annually visited New Orleans to trade? Men used to go from my neighborhood annually, before 1812, to New Orleans to trade. Some of my father's brothers went from here at a very early period, to Louisiana for that purpose.

Now, if the bees I watched when I was a small boy were Italians, or descendants of Italian stock, and if the yellow bees that were in Arkansas before the war were descendants of Italian stock, then the Italian bee was first introduced into this country when Louisiana belonged to France.

I would like to hear from some of our Arkansas friends on this most interesting question, and also from others who know any thing about the yellow bees of 40 years ago. Especially would I like to hear from Mr. T. S. Kennedy and Gen. C. M. Clay, whose many opportunities for observing these insects will enable them to say something of general interest to the readers of your paper. The latter gentleman, while in Mexico in 1846, may have seen bees of that country.

For the American Bee Journal.

Size of Hive for Comb Honey.

A. R. KOHNKE.

In answering a question of Mr. Sears, of Girard, Pa., as to the size of hive for comb honey, the editor of the BEE JOURNAL says that the Langstroth is the one he prefers. But he is probably aware that there are 2 sizes of that hive in general use, one of which holds 10 frames, which Mr. Muth, of Cincinnati, uses; the other being an 8-frame hive, Mr. Heddon prefers to the exclusion of all others.

To arrive at a correct size of a hive, we should first find out the desirable qualities of such. 1. The hive and frame should be shallow enough to prevent the bees from storing too much honey just above their brood nest in the brood chamber, and it appears to me that the Langstroth frame is admirable for this purpose. Second, the queen should have sufficient room to deposit as many eggs as she can, besides leaving room enough for the bees to store honey and pollen for use in the brood chamber. This latter takes on an average about 2 inches under the top bar of each frame, being less in the middle and more on the outside frames, or about $\frac{1}{4}$ of each frame. One frame of comb 8x16 contains 6,400 cells; 8 frames, 51,200, and 10 frames, 64,000, three-fourths of which serve for brood rearing, or 44,800 and 56,000 respectively. Now I will leave this part of calculating, and commence at the other end.

Mr. Langstroth says in his book, "the queen lays 6 eggs per minute," which, to grant all the advantage possible, I will admit to be the case at the height of the honey season. But that would make 360 eggs per hour, and 8,640 per day; at that rate it will take only from 5 to 6 days to fill an 8-framer, and from 7 to 8 days a 10-framer, and the queen would fill, in 21 days (the time bees hatch from egg), 181,440 cells, or 30 frames.

Prof. Cook, in his Manual, puts it at 4 eggs a minute, or 5,760 per day, at which rate an 8-framer would be filled in less than 9 days, and a 10-framer in less than 11 days, or 20 frames in 21 days. I do not think we

have such queens, though he claims that about 3,000 eggs per day is the average of a good queen. Berlepsch says he has seen queens deposit eggs at the rate of 6 to 7 per minute, but adds that such may be extra exertions of very fertile queens at the best honey season, and he puts the number of eggs laid by a good queen at 1,200 per day. At that rate she will keep only 5 frames full of brood. Now we all know that a queen will keep from 8 to 10 frames full, and then sometimes go to depositing eggs in surplus boxes for want of room; at least I have had such. But I think we will be justified in saying that an average queen lays at a rate of from 2,000 to 2,500 eggs per day, less than one per minute.

As it is preferable to crowd the bees a little to force them into the surplus arrangement, I think a hive which is large enough to accommodate a queen which lays 2,000 eggs per day at her best, is the hive we want. Multiplying 2,500 by 21 days, we get 52,500 cells, which the queen wants to keep her busy. Now, that is about what an 8-framer will furnish, frames of standard Langstroth size. As I stated above, I have had queens which would keep 10 frames filled with brood and still be in want of more room; but I have seen more hives of 10 frames where the honey on the outside frames remained from one year's end to the other, and not more than 7 or 8 frames filled with brood, which I, taken all in all, consider proof conclusive that an 8-framer Langstroth hive is preferable to any other. To prevent the queen from entering the surplus arrangement on top, it is only necessary to use small sections 4x4 1/4; into these, the queens will rarely, if ever, go to depositing eggs, for the reason that she seems to object to too much wood in the brood department; if in addition to small sections, the latter are put on a rack made of slats nailed together, so as to leave space enough between them for the bees to get through, such as Mr. Heddon uses, the queen will never be found in them.

In the summer of 1880, I put into several hives frames filled with sections a little larger than 3x3, in the middle of the brood nest, which I wanted to use to start some nuclei to raise queens. The wood of these small frames was very thin, not more than 1-12 of an inch, each Langstroth frame holding 10 of these sections. But it did not work; the queens would not lay their eggs in so much machinery; so I had to give up that plan, and learned the value of small sections, as to where they would do the most good, and where they would not.

Though I am not yet a member of the National Bee-Keepers' Association, I would propose to have the proceedings, etc., of that body published in pamphlet form of the size of the BEE JOURNAL, to have it bound in with same year, published at the cost of the Association, and each member should be entitled to one copy, non-members paying to the funds of the Association a reasonable price for it.

Youngstown, O., Nov. 21, 1881.

[All standard Langstroth hives contain 10 brood frames.—Ed.]

For the American Bee Journal.

Theories and Facts.

J. W. WHITE.

That was a severe criticism made on a distinguished man, a generation ago, when it was said of him that "he depended on his memory for his wit, and on his imagination for his facts." But he was not alone in his glory; a similar talent is frequently manifested among men of every profession or business. I was once present at a consultation between several physicians. The conclusion reached was so manifestly absurd that I ventured to ask one of them the next day, "Is there such a thing in your profession as forming beforehand a theory about what is the matter, and then making

a diagnosis to suit it?" His answer was: "I am sorry to say there is just such a thing in our profession, and I have to acknowledge with shame that I have in this instance been a party in the business." Another consultation was held, and a different conclusion reached. In theology men have inherited their creeds from their parents and churches, and confirmed themselves in them by arguments drawn from nature and revelation; or, giving up their traditional beliefs, they run off into the wildest speculations. What a rare thing it is to find a man who is not wedded to some pre-conceived opinion, who is an honest inquirer after the truth, and who is willing to follow the inductive method of philosophy by getting his theory from the facts, rather than making his facts conform to his theory. Blind adherence to traditions, and the equally blind reception of speculations mistaken for truths, are the two great hindrances to the world's progress in goodness and truth.

How is it with us bee-keepers? Are we making much progress in scientific bee-culture? Beyond the use of section boxes and comb foundation, what do we know to-day that could not be learned from the Rev. L. L. Langstroth's book, written more than 25 years ago? Why do we not get to the bottom of the questions about wintering, dysentery and spring dwindling? Is it not because we are not close observers and because we speculate too much, and observe and experiment too little? Let us try to get the facts, all the facts about wintering, dysentery and spring dwindling before us, and keep them there, and then let us be shy of anything which does not harmonize or account for all the facts. I will state some things that I take to be facts; if any of them are not facts, let them be challenged and the truth presented. In keeping bees 17 years I have not made notes on every point, and may be mistaken, but I think I may call the following a statement of facts:

The colonies which wintered well were not deficient in pollen. Good colonies which starved to death exhibited no signs of disease from the use of pollen or any other cause. Good colonies which were confined for months in the cellar, and were short of stores so that they had to be fed in March and April to keep them from starvation, showed no signs of dysentery brought on by using pollen to save their scanty stores of honey. After removing the bees to their summer stands, generally about the second week of March, I give them an overhauling and clean out their hives; healthy or strong colonies generally or always have at that time some young bees, and more or less brood in all stages; diseased colonies, which show signs of dysentery, have very little brood, generally none at all. How can we account for this, if brood-rearing while the bees are confined tends to give them dysentery? In this latitude (about 40°), where the apples bloom on an average about the 10th of May, the locusts about the 25th of May, white clover about the 1st of June, and linden about the 1st of July, unless the brood-rearing is far enough advanced in March to fill three or four combs, the bees will not be strong enough in numbers for the honey harvest. The one drawback is, during March and April the weather is sometimes so rough that the bees cannot fly to get water, and without water they cannot rear much brood. I have never had a successful year where the brood-rearing was seriously interrupted in March, unless this year is an exception, owing to the good fall pasture. Last spring the colonies had each from one to three combs of brood on the 14th of March, and none on the 14th of April. After that they filled up rapidly. The old bees died off about the first week of May, and if it had not been for the warm spell of weather about that time, much of the brood would have chilled and perished. But what we need in this section of country is to get our bees to brood-rearing

early, and some way to supply them with water so that they can keep on without interruption.

In the winter of 1871-2, before I had heard of the bad effects of pollen and winter brood-rearing, and when I knew that they reared brood in February, I fed my bees for about 5 weeks in the cellar, a mixture of honey and flour to stimulate the brood-rearing. Did they rear brood? They did. Did they get dysentery? They did not. Did they do well the next summer? It was the best year I ever had. I would not advise others to follow my example that year, unless on a very limited scale as an experiment. But with all these facts before me, it is not wonderful that when I read statements made so boldly that pollen and early brood-rearing produce dysentery, I find myself questioning something.

There is one thing more I would like to know. I see it stated that by having the hives well filled with brood in September and October, and thus having plenty of young bees to winter, we may prevent spring dwindling. This seems to be a reasonable theory. But the difficulty with me is to get my bees to do as I want them in this matter. One year ago I fed them to get them to rear brood, but for all I could do they slacked off early in September to 1, 2 or 3 combs of brood to each hive, and they would not enlarge the brood nest, and with October all brood disappeared. Yet I had no dwindling last spring. This fall we had the best and most constant flow of honey from July till October I ever saw, the hives gradually gaining in honey all the time. But it was the same as the year before, brood-rearing slacked off in September, and disappeared early in October. I have kept a record for years of the amount of brood in the hives at different times of the spring, but until the last two years paid no attention to the amount they had in the fall. Who has a record of this kind? Who can tell us the number of combs of brood in each hive, say on August 15, September 1 and 15, and October 1 and 15? Who can report the number of additional frames he got filled with brood by feeding after the bees had contracted their brood-nest in September? We would like to have the facts. General talk about keeping the hives full of brood, without some figures and facts, may only make us skeptical. Milroy, Pa., Nov. 11, 1881.

CONVENTION NOTES

Local Convention Directory.

1881.	Time and Place of Meeting.
Dec. 8—Michigan State, at Battle Creek, Mich.	T. F. Bingham, Sec., Abonia, Mich.
15—S. E. Michigan, at Ann Arbor, Mich.	N. E. Prudden, Sec.
1882.	
Jan. 10—Cortland Union, at Cortland, N. Y.	C. M. Bean, Sec., McGrawville, N. Y.
11, 12—Nebraska State, at Ashland, Neb.	Geo. M. Hawley, Sec., Lincoln, Neb.
17, 18—N. W. Ill. & S. W. Wis., at Freeport, Ill.	Jonathan Stewart, Sec., Rock City, Ill.
25—Northeastern, at Utica, N. Y.	Geo. W. House, Sec., Fayetteville, N. Y.
April 11—Eastern Michigan, at Detroit, Mich.	A. B. Wood, Sec., Detroit, Mich.
25—Texas State, at McKinney, Texas.	Wm. R. Howard, Sec.
May —Champlain Valley, at Bristol, Vt.	T. Brookins, Sec.
25—Iowa Central, at Winterset, Iowa.	Henry Wallace, Sec.

In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of time and place of future meetings.—Ed.

Central Michigan Convention.

The Central Michigan Bee-Keepers' Association met at Lansing, Oct. 26, and from the Lansing Republican we take the following record of proceedings:

The Convention was called to order by President Ashworth. The Secretary and Treasurer being absent, their reports were postponed, and an opportunity was given to those who desired

to sign the roll. C. Thompson and W. C. Lankton became members of the Association.

The President appointed Messrs. White and Wood a committee to receive questions for the question drawer, and Prof. Cook, L. B. Baker and Mrs. F. R. Mattison, a committee to answer such questions.

An opportunity was given to any who desired to relate their experience in bee-keeping during the past season, and President Ashworth was called for. He knew but little about the bees, as he had been from home most of the summer. He had 16 colonies, and they were doing well.

Mr. Langton was a beginner. He bought a single colony a year ago last spring, and made up 2 from them. He let them have their own way pretty much. They have increased to 12 colonies and have taken about 1,200 lbs. of honey. He used chaff hives, and asked if it was advisable to remove them to a sheltered position on the south side of his barn for winter. The general expression was that they should not be disturbed.

Mr. White had 9 colonies this spring, and from them and their increase had taken an average of 125 lbs. of comb honey.

Mrs. Harrison used chaff hives and had taken about 300 lbs. from 3 colonies; was making arrangements to go into the business more extensively.

Mr. Wilson commenced the winter with 9 colonies, saved 7, and those have increased to 20. He extracted about 200 lbs., and had taken about 100 lbs. of section honey. Wintered in temporary chaff hives, which he has made in sections so that they can be taken off and packed away in the spring. Used 6 inches of oat chaff around the sides.

The President said Mr. Mitchell, a successful bee-keeper, used clover chaff.

Mr. Hanchett, of Leslie, had large experience on a small scale. Went into winter quarters with 21 colonies and came out with 4, but thought it due largely to carelessness in not providing for a severe winter. He packed with forest leaves and opened his hives about April 1; they suffered from spring dwindling. A neighbor lost a large number of bees by permitting them to take their first fly in the afternoon, and they were chilled. He discussed the question of ventilation and oil cloth covers, and the general expression was adverse to the latter.

Mr. Thomas, of Brighton, had a most unfavorable location for bees, but his experience had been diversified. Used the simplicity hives and wintered on summer stands. A year ago he had 50 colonies of bees; in February had lost 6. In the spring he had 20 colonies which had increased to 80, and he had taken 1,850 lbs. of extracted honey and 150 lbs. of comb. His bees had plenty for winter, and were in winter quarters.

At the afternoon session, which convened at 1:30 p. m., the attendance was still light. The President announced a continuance of the experience meeting, but there was nothing forthcoming. Addresses were also called for without response, and members were then requested to write and furnish to the committee any question upon which they might desire information.

Mr. Waldo was called upon for his experience, and said his bees had done remarkably well. He started a year ago with 9 colonies, and now had 25 colonies, after selling \$44 worth of bees, and he had put them away with from 25 to 32 lbs. of honey each. He had sold at least \$50 worth of honey.

A. L. Baker, of Lansing, started with 2 colonies and now had 9 strong ones, having united 2 weak ones. He had sold 125 lbs. of honey. This was his first year's experience.

Reuben Wood had last spring 36 colonies, but 14 of them were weak. He had sold 4 and had 66 left for winter, and had taken some 1,500 lbs. of surplus honey. The bees were in good condition; he kept them in cellar last winter.

The question of using sawdust for packing was discussed, and Prof. Cook, who had just come in, stated that some of the most successful beekeepers were using it, and preferred it to anything else. He stated that he should put up his bees this winter with sawdust or chaff packing in the top, leaving the bottom of the hive open.

L. B. Baker did not think such a plan would work, as the sawdust or chaff was not as good an absorbent as cloth, but Prof. Cook thought that position faulty, and called on Mr. Robinson, who wintered his bees in the house, and never used anything but sawdust on top, enclosing his hives in burlaps covers. Speaking of the effects of cider, he said there was a large cider-mill in his vicinity, but he had never seen any harm come from it among his bees. He handled his bees all winter.

Prof. Cook did not think beekeepers need to fear for their bees during the winter, if they will only use common sense, and apply what is already known in regard to it. The larger beekeepers have the matter in good shape, but their plans will not always work with a small number of colonies. The discussion was continued for some time by Messrs. Cook, Robertson, Baker, Wood, Waldo and others, and considerable was said upon the subject of winter handling.

An informal interchange of experiences in honey-gathering during the past season, and the prospects of fall gathering, followed. Speaking of cider honey, some of the members of the Association thought that bees never stored it, but Mr. Robertson stated that he knew of his own experience that they did store it.

Prof. Cook gave in substance a paper by Mr. Heddon, which is somewhat singular in its statements, in regard to chronic poisoning from them. He also spoke of the Syrian bees, detailing their many good qualities, but intimating that they were too cross for a beginner to handle with any comfort.

R. Wood had 1 colony, and he found them very quiet, but Prof. Cook thought the reason was because they were mated with Italians. Another gentleman, who took a colony from the college, said they were easily handled by him.

Prof. Cook explained a new plan for securing sections into a hive which he saw, the invention of a Kentucky beekeeper, and which he believed to be superior to anything he had previously seen.

Members of the Central Michigan Bee-Keepers Association, were invited to attend the State Convention at Battle Creek, Dec. 8 and 9, and were made delegates.

It was also resolved that the annual meeting be held in Lansing, at the Capitol, on the 3d Thursday of April, 1882.

Prof. Cook exhibited a specimen of foul brood, which attracted much attention, and Messrs. Wood & Narmore exhibited a very convenient hive.

The question drawer was then opened, and answers were given by members of the Association, affording much valuable information, especially to young beekeepers.

Prof. Cook explained how to detect foul brood, and stated that it was all around Lansing, but not here yet.

Iowa Central Convention.

The Iowa Central Bee-Keepers' Association met at Winterset, Iowa, November 3, 1881.

The following officers were elected: A. J. Adkison, Pres.; John Graham, Vice Pres.; Henry Wallace, Sec.; Mrs. J. W. Pryor, Treas.

An executive committee was appointed to select subjects for discussion, and Moses Bailey and others to present specimens of honey cake.

The next regular meeting will be held in Winterset on the last Thursday in May.

HENRY WALLACE, Sec.

Michigan Bee-Keepers' Association.

The 13th annual meeting of the Michigan State Bee-Keepers' Association, will be held in the City Hall at Battle Creek, on Thursday and Friday, the 8th and 9th of December. The time and place makes it convenient for those who wish to attend the annual meeting of the State Horticultural Society, which convenes at South Haven, the three previous days of the same week. The Michigan Central, Chicago & Grand Trunk, Detroit, Grand Haven & Milwaukee, and the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroads will sell tickets to members at excursion rates. To secure reduced fare, all must have certificates, which can be furnished by the President, A. J. Cook, Lansing, Mich. Arrangements are made with hotels for fare at from 80 cts., to \$1 per day.

The meeting promises to be the largest and the best ever held. All beekeepers are cordially invited to be present. Beekeepers are requested to bring samples of honey, apparatus, and articles of interest to apiarists. The following programme has been arranged:

THURSDAY FORENOON.

"Italian bees," S. K. Marsh.
"The new bees," D. A. Jones.
"Shall we continue to import queens?" Discussion opened by A. B. Weed.

AFTERNOON.

"Bees and grapes," H. D. Cutting
"Mistakes of bee-keepers," Dr. E. B. Southwick.
"Honey as food," Dr. J. H. Kellogg.
"The future honey market," T. G. Newman.

EVENING.

"Crumbs from the table of the National Convention," President's address.
"Adulteration," Dr. J. H. Kellogg.
"Apiarian implements," Hon. A. B. Cheeney.

FRIDAY FORENOON.

"Rearing and selling queens," W. Z. Hutchinson.
"Foundation," James Heddon.
Address, A. I. Root.

AFTERNOON.

"Foul brood," C. F. Muth.
"Extracted honey," Chas. Dadant.
"Hints," T. F. Bingham.
Election of officers and reports.

EVENING.

"Wintering," O. O. Poppleton, D. A. Jones, C. F. Muth, and others.
Miscellaneous questions.
A. J. COOK, Pres.
T. F. BINGHAM, Sec.

The South Eastern Michigan Bee-Keepers' Association, will hold its annual meeting at the Court House in Ann Arbor, on Thursday (and perhaps Friday), commencing Dec. 15, 1881, at 10 a. m., for the election of officers for the ensuing year, and such other business as may be brought before the Association. A good attendance and interesting meeting is expected. Several subjects of interest will be discussed by able men.

N. A. PRUDDEN, Pres.
G. J. PEASE, Sec. pro tem.

The Texas State Bee-Keepers' Convention will be held at McKinney, Texas, on Tuesday, April 25, 1882.

The annual meeting of the N. W. Illinois and S. W. Wisconsin Bee-Keepers' Association, will be held in Temperance Hall, Freeport, Stephenson county, Ill., on the 17th and 18th of January, 1882.

JONATHAN STEWART, Sec.

The Nebraska State Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its annual meeting in Ashland, Neb., on the 12th and 13th of January, 1882. A cordial invitation is extended to all who are interested in bee-culture.

T. L. VONDOERN, Pres., Omaha.
G. H. HAWLEY, Sec., Lincoln.

SELECTIONS FROM OUR LETTER BOX

Still Gathering Honey.—While beekeepers in the North and West are put to their wits end to keep their bees from freezing, we in beautiful Texas are not bothered that way. Although the season has been dry, my bees did well, and are still gathering a little honey from Spanish needle and smartweed, and breeding right along. I have drones flying yet. I have some honey to extract yet, and when all is gathered it will amount to about 9,000 lbs. of extracted honey, and 1,000 1-lb. sections, from 100 colonies. I have worked up a good home market, and sold nearly all my crop at 15c. for sections, and 10c. per lb. for extracted. Honey put up in nice, neat packages will always sell, and run the old-fashioned strained honey out of the market. I wish the Weekly BEE JOURNAL much success. J. W. ECKMAN.
Richmond, Texas, Nov. 18, 1881.

Mississippi for Bees and Honey.—This has not been a good honey season; for 2 months in the summer the bees gathered nothing, but in the fall they made up much of the loss. My bees gathered honey up to Oct. 20. I think the Mississippi Valley is the best bee country in the World. I have sold over \$500 worth of honey from 40 colonies. Much of it was comb honey, and I sold it in St. Louis at from 14 to 20 cents per pound. This is the best business in this country. I shall increase to 150 colonies next year. I cannot do without the BEE JOURNAL. G. C. VAUGHT.
Greenville, Miss., Nov. 18, 1881.

Introducing Queens.—We hear many complain of losing queens when introducing them. I will give my plan which has always been successful both with virgin and fertilized queens. Remove the queen to be superseded, if they have one, then about noon, when the workers are all out, remove the hive 3 to 5 steps, and place an empty one on its stand; open the one removed, take out one frame, brush the bees down in the hive, place this frame in the empty hive where the workers are gathering, then let the queen crawl out of the cage on the comb; the workers will find themselves in a strange hive, and consequently will hum around the entrance a few minutes, then gradually ascend the one frame inserted, finding a strange queen in a strange hive, and will receive her. In 10 to 20 minutes you may proceed with the other frames, brushing the bees down in the hive removed till all are taken out and placed with the first frame removed, when the bees will be left without queen or comb, and will naturally one by one leave the hive and return to their old stand; the young bees will remain till the last, then you may place them near the entrance, and let them crawl in. I hail the BEE JOURNAL as a tried friend. G. W. ASHBY.
Valley Station, Ky., Nov. 11, 1881.

Apiary Record Book.—I will take 2 copies if you, Mr. Editor, will get it up. I think the BEE JOURNAL is a splendid paper. Its weekly visits are a pleasure to me, for it is so full of bee news. W. K. LEWIS.
Dry Ridge, Ky., Nov. 19, 1881.

From an A B C Scholar.—I have read the Weekly BEE JOURNAL for some months, and think it is just what every A B C scholar needs to post him up, and so send for it for next year. As it comes every week, it keeps up a fresh and keen interest. I do not know how I could get along without it. HENRY TILLEY.
Castle Hill, Maine, Nov. 14, 1881.

Subscriptions may commence with the first number of any month in the year.

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The proprietors of Kendall's Spavin Cure challenge the whole world to produce its equal as a cure for rheumatism or any other deep seated pain. It stands without a rival. 48w4.

Women are Everywhere Using and recommending Parker's Ginger Tonic, because they have learned from experience that it speedily overcomes despondency, indigestion, pain or weakness in the back and kidneys, and other troubles peculiar to the sex.—Home Journal. See adv. 44w4

It would save us much trouble, if all would be particular to give their post office address and name, when writing to this office. We have letters (some inclosing money) that have no name, post-office, County or State.—Also, if you live near one postoffice and get your mail at another, be sure to give the address we have on our list.

It will pay to devote a few hours in getting up a club for the BEE JOURNAL. Read the list of premiums on another page, and take advantage of the fall gatherings to get up clubs.

We have a SPECIAL EDITION of the Weekly BEE JOURNAL, just as it will be published in 1882 (16 pages), for distribution at Fairs, Conventions, etc. Any one who may desire to distribute them to beekeepers will be supplied free, in any quantity they may be able to judiciously use.

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This is a new edition of Prof. Cook's Manual of the Apilary, enlarged and elegantly illustrated. The first edition of 3,000 copies was exhausted in about 18 months—a sale unprecedented in the annals of bee-culture. This new work has been produced with great care, patient study and persistent research. It comprises a full delineation of the anatomy and physiology of the honey bee, illustrated with many costly wood engravings—the products of the Honey Bee; the races of bees; full descriptions of honey-producing plants, trees, shrubs, etc., splendidly illustrated—and last, though not least, detailed instructions for the various manipulations necessary in the apilary.

This work is a masterly production, and one that no bee-keeper, however limited his means, can afford to do without. It is fully "up with the times" on every conceivable subject that can interest the apiarist. It is not only instructive, but intensely interesting and thoroughly practical.

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All agree that it is the work of a master and of real value.—*L'Apiculture*, Paris.

Prof. Cook's valuable Manual has been my constant guide in my operations and successful management of the apiary.—J. P. WEST.

This book is just what everyone interested in bees ought to have, and which, no one who obtains it, will ever regret having purchased.—*Mich. Fur.*

To all who wish to engage 'n bee-culture, a manual is a necessity. Prof. Cook's Manual is an exhaustive work.—*Herald*, Monticello, Ill.

With Cool's Manual I am more than pleased. It is fully up with the times in every particular. The richest reward awaits its author.—A. E. WENZEL.

My success has been so great as to almost astonish myself, and much of it is due to the clear, disinterested information contained in Cook's Manual.—WM. VAN ANTWERP, M. D.

It is the latest book on the bee, and treats of both the bee and hives, with their implements. It is of value to all bee-raisers.—*Ky. Live Stock Record*.

It is a credit to the author as well the publisher. I have never yet met with a work, either French or foreign, which I like so much.—L'ABBE DU

It not only gives the natural history of these industrious insects, but also a thorough, practical, and clearly expressed series of directions for their

and clearly expressed series of directions for their management; also a botanical description of honey-producing plants, and an extended account of the enemies of bees.—*Democrat*, Pulaski, N. Y.

We have perused with great pleasure this *volume* of the bee-keeper. It is replete with the best information on everything belonging to apiculture.

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This book is pronounced by the press and leading bee-men to be the most complete and practical treatise on bee-culture in Europe or America; a scientific work on modern bee management that

every experienced bee-man will welcome, and it is essential to every amateur in bee-culture. It is handsomely printed, neatly bound, and is a credit to the West.—*Western Agriculturist*.

This work is undoubtedly the most complete manual for the instruction of bee-keepers which has ever been published. It gives a full expan-

tion regarding the care and management of the apiary. There is no subject relating to the culture of bees left untouched, and in the compilation of the work Prof. Cook has had the advantage of a

the work of a cook has had the advantage of all the previous knowledge of apiarists, which he uses admirably to promote and make popular this most interesting of all occupations.—*American Inventor*

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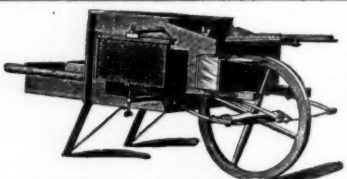
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